

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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10 JAMES WILLIAMS, Petitioner, Case No. 2:17-cv-00350-MMD-CWH
11 v. ORDER
12 STATE OF NEVADA, et al.,
13 Respondents.

15 Before the Court is a *pro se* petition for writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C.
16 § 2254, submitted by James Williams (ECF No. 1-1). His application to proceed *in forma
17 pauperis* (ECF No. 1) will be granted.

18 While not entirely clear, it appears from Williams' filing that he is no longer in
19 custody pursuant to the judgment of conviction he wishes to challenge (ECF No. 1-1.)
20 The federal habeas statute gives the United States district courts jurisdiction to entertain
21 petitions for habeas relief only from persons who are "in custody in violation of the
22 Constitution or laws or treaties of the United States." 28 U.S.C. § 2241(c)(3) (emphasis
23 added); see also 28 U.S.C. § 2254(a). The U.S. Supreme Court, in *Maleng v. Cook*, 490
24 U.S. 488 (1989), noted that the Court "interpreted the statutory language as requiring that
25 the habeas petitioner be 'in custody' under the conviction or sentence under attack at the
26 time his petition is filed." 490 U.S. at 490-91 (emphasis added) (citation omitted). A person
27 who is on parole or probation at the time he files his federal habeas petition satisfies the
28 custody requirement. *Jones v. Cunningham*, 371 U.S. 236, 240-243 (1963).

1 Here, Williams asks this court to "invalidate" his judgment of conviction in case no.
2 C294333. He asserts that he "is actually in custody" on that case because he is currently
3 facing new charges and he could "be impeached by the underlying conviction" in case no.
4 294333. The court takes judicial notice of the Nevada Department of Corrections public
5 inmate information, and it appears that Williams has discharged his sentence and been
6 released from custody.

7 In an abundance of caution, the Court grants Williams thirty (30) days from the
8 date of this order to show cause and file such proof to demonstrate that he was in custody
9 pursuant to the judgment of conviction he wishes to challenge at the time he filed this
10 petition. If Williams cannot demonstrate that he meets the custody requirement, this Court
11 will enter an order dismissing the petition with prejudice.

12 It is therefore ordered that petitioner's application to proceed *in forma pauperis*
13 (ECF No. 1) is granted.

14 It is further ordered that petitioner will have thirty (30) days from the date of entry
15 of this order to show cause and file such proof he may have to demonstrate that the
16 petition should not be dismissed for lack of jurisdiction.

17 It is further ordered that if petitioner is unable to demonstrate that he satisfies the
18 custody requirement, the Court will enter an order dismissing the petition.

DATED THIS 13th day of April 2017.



MIRANDA M. DU
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE